

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOGADI 01291 121232Z

65

ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 L-03 /017 W

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R 121108Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4110

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ABLD

SUBJECT: EMBASSY COMPOUND

REF: MOGADISCIO 1277

1. FOLLOWING LETTER ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADOR RECEIVED AUGUST 12:

QUOTE

SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

MOGADISHU, 11TH AUGUST, 1976

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

FOLLOWING OUR CONVERSATION TODAY AT THE MINISTRY REGARDING THE KM.7 COMPOUND IN MOGADISHU, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING, ON BEHALF OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT, FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT:

SINCE 1973 MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN MOGADISHU, HAVE BEEN MAKING REPEATED REQUESTS THAT THE QUESTION REGARDING THE COMPOUND MAY BE AMICABLE RESOLVED.

THROUGH DIFFERENT OCCASSIONS AND WITH VARIOUS LEVELS OF THE SOMALI AUTHORITIES, WE HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS READY TO HAND OVER THE COMPOUND TO THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WE ALLO-

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CATE ANOTHER SUITABLE SITE (SIC) FOR THE USE OF THE EMBASSY IN

RETURN. WHEN THIS PROPOSAL WAS CONSIDERED, THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT THOUGHT IT REASONABLE.

IN THIS REGARD, I FORMALLY PUT FORWARD TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AND ON BEHALF OF MY OWN, THAT THE COMPOUND BE RELEASED TO THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, WHO (SIC) WILL IN TURN PUT THE BUILDINGS IN MOGADISHU FORMERLLY (SIC) OCCUPIED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

ALTHOUGH THE COMPOUND MAY BE MUCH MORE SIZEABLE THAN THE TWO-STORY BUILDING IN QUESTION, WE FEEL THAT ITS LOCATION IN THE CENTRE AND PRIME PART OF THE CITY, MAKES IT AT PAR WITH THE COMPOUND IN EQUITY.

THIS EXCHANGE WILL, OF COURSE, BE GOVERNED BY LAW NO. 41 DATED 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1973, ARTICLE 19 WHICH STIPULATES THAT SUCH PLOTS OF SOMALI TERRITORY LEASED TO A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT WILL BE MADE ON RECIPROCAL GROUNDS.

IF THIS ARRANGEMENT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, I TAKE IT THAT THIS NOTE AND YOUR REPLY WILL CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE ON THE DAY OF YOUR REPLY.

/S/ DR. A.J. BARRE, DIRECTOR GENERAL UNQUOTE

2. SPREED WITH WHICH SDR ACTING ON EMBASSY COMPOUND PROBLEM SOMEWHAT DISCONCERTING. IN ADDITION, DG'S LETTER DOES NOT ADDRESS ITSELF TO LEGAL QUESTIONS INVOLVED. DEPT SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT ITALIAN EMBASSY FOLLOWING THREE YEARS DISCUSSIONS WITH SDR RETURNED ITS K7 COMPOUND TO GOVT ON BASIS EXCHANGE NOTES IN WHICH SDR --REPORTEDLY -- ACKNOWLEDGED PROPERTY WAS OWNED BY ITALIAN GOVT. AMBASSADOR WILL MEET WITH ITALIAN COUNTERPART AUGUST 14 AND REQUEST SEE AND IF POSSIBLE OBTAIN COPIES NOTES. MEANWHILE EMBASSY WILL UNDERTAKE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT FONOFF OFFER.

3. DEPARTING EEC OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED US THAT PRESENT K7 COMPOUND BEING REQUESTED BY SDR FOR GOVT INSTALLATIONS/BUILDINGS IT PLANS CONSTRUCT ASAP; NO DETAILS AVAILABLE.
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4. POUCHING COPY OF LETTER.
LOUGHRAN

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Message Attributes

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